

DEC 8 1908

Juneau, Alaska, November 27, 1908.

Rev. Robert M. Craig, D.D.,

New York City.

Dear Dr. Craig:-


Not a word as yet, neither by wire <sup>or</sup> otherwise, relative to Capt. Johnston's proposition which you were to have the Board to consider, has been received. I am anxiously waiting to hear from the Board. Will you not take the matter up with the Board at once and let me hear by wire ~~thence~~ their decision? The manse is leaking badly, ruining wall-paper and carpets. The winter storms are on and something must be done and that soon. Have long wondered why I have received no message from you.

I enjoyed your visit here very much, only regretting that it was not longer and that I could not entertain you in my own home. I regret also that you did not get a peep into some of our well-kept Christian Native homes. While some live in a dirty fashion, others are living well. Our services are now in full swing for the winter. Have five regular services every week. Have problems to face and the Devil to fight. Out of thirty six prisoners in our Federal jail, twenty two are in for selling whiskey to Indians. These are our white reprobates. There is no question that Juneau and Douglas are the hardest missionary fields in Alaska. That we stem the tide of evil at all is a wonder. Pray for us, that God may give us the victory over evil and that we may not become discouraged.

Most cordially yours,

L. F. Jones





Juneau, Alaska, December 9, 1908.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,

New York City.

Dear Brother Olin:-

I received your telegram authorizing the acceptance of the Johnston offer yesterday. To-day I conferred with Capt. Johnston and submitted to him the enclosed agreement.

For the following reasons he has asked that the remainder \$4,500. mentioned in the agreement, be reduced to \$4,000. In other words, that when he shall have completed his monthly payments the Board make the balance \$4,000.

First, that property in Juneau within this last year has depreciated at the least fifteen or twenty percent. This I know is true.

Secondly, that last month owing to the rotten condition of the roof of the big mission building, which was leaking everywhere like a sieve, in places bunches of shingles being off, he put a complete new roof on the building at a cost of \$200. and made other needed minor repairs, all of which the Board would have been obliged to make if they wished to preserve the big building. Besides, at other times he has made needed repairs which in the aggregate have cost him three or four hundred dollars.

Thirdly, in the spring the city will grade the street in front of the mission when he will be expected to assume the property holders share <sup>of expense</sup> for those four lots.

In view of these facts, brother Olin, I think it only just, and would recommend, that in the agreement the remainder read Four Thousand instead of Four Thousand Five Hundred. He will probably make up the five hundred in interest on the balance. I'm sure, that were we to put the property on the market we could not find a purchaser for \$6,000. Ask Dr. Craig if he does not think that Capt. Johnston is paying all it is worth when he pays \$7,000. Wire me if not too expensive. At any rate a letter at your earliest con-



venience.

Kindly return the enclosed agreement, or word one which will express in better terms the substance of this.

Wishing you and all the other officers of the Board a very happy Christmas, I am,

Very cordially yours,

*L. F. Jones*



AGREEMENT.

This AGREEMENT made and entered into at Juneau, Alaska,  
this provides as follows:

That in the consideration of the sum of <sup>Five</sup> ~~Six~~ <sup>Five hundred</sup> Thousand Dollars  
(<sup>5,500</sup> ~~\$6,000~~), to be paid as hereinafter <sup>provided</sup> specified, the Board of Home  
Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of Amer-  
ica, <sup>a corporation existing under & by virtue of the laws of the State of New York with</sup> headquarters at 156 Fifth Avenue New York City, agrees to con-  
vey, by <sup>a</sup> ~~full~~ Warranty Deed, to John Johnston, of the city of Juneau,  
Alaska, Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8 (together with their buildings and all  
improvements) in Block No. 19 in the city of Juneau, Alaska, Pro-  
vided:

That the said party of the second part (John Johnston) pays  
<sup>Five hundred (\$500) Dollars in cash</sup> ~~down cash in hand~~ on the date of this AGREEMENT, <sup>as signed</sup> ~~Five Hundred Dol-~~  
<sup>also shown (\$1000) - in cash and payment of \$100 - each</sup> ~~lars (\$500) and One Hundred Dollars for ten months, payable each~~  
<sup>immediately succeeding</sup> month after the date of this AGREEMENT, and at the close of the ~~said~~  
instalment period of ten months delivers to the party of the first  
part a First Mortgage on the <sup>above described</sup> said property for the balance of the  
consideration hereinbefore mentioned and agreeing to pay six per  
cent interest on the <sup>said balance</sup> remainder mentioned (<sup>Five hundred (\$500) Dollars</sup> ~~\$4,500~~) from the is-  
sue of the <sup>this said</sup> Warranty Deed to the time of final settlement.

Be it further provided: That if the party of the second part  
(John Johnston) fails to meet the payments <sup>due</sup> as herein <sup>specified</sup> mentioned, ac-  
cording to expressed agreement, he shall forfeit all payments made,

or monies paid, prior to the date of such failure, and the party of  
the first part shall be released from their agreement. <sup>this obligation as expressed in this</sup>  
<sup>at once into complete & separate possession of said property</sup> In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals,

this

seal

Witness.

seal



Juneau, Alaska, July 21, 1909.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Olin:-

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Am't Enclosed (N.Y.) |      |
| Ck.                  |      |
| Dft. 500.00          | Free |
| P.O.                 | 1/10 |
| X.O.                 | 1/4  |

X  
Mr. Banks.  
Woman's Board

Since I last wrote you I have been daily expecting Capt. Johnston to make the payment of five hundred (\$500.). I was waiting to get that before writing. Last night at eight o'clock he gave me his check for \$500. I am enclosing the \$500., in this letter to you; so please find check in your favor to that amount.

Capt. Johnston had to leave early this morning so we could not appear before a Notary and have the Agreements officially signed. This we will do as soon as he returns, which will be in a few days. I will then forward you one of the copies.

Now Mr. Olin, in your last communication there was something said about reroofing this manse. Your letter was to the import that I had either to suffer a leaky house and the damages resulting there from, or raise the money <sup>to repair</sup>. Well, I found I could not suffer the leaky house; so I had either to reroof or move out. I laid the matter before Capt. Johnson and he told me to go ahead and reroof and as soon as it was finished he would settle for it. Accordingly I let the contract in the month of May and it was finished in June. Capt. Johnston advanced the money for the same and I enclose voucher signed by the contractor, whom I paid in full. I have one of the best jobs of roofing that could be done <sup>at lowest figure</sup> and am no more worried by a leaky house, which, as Solomon says, is an abomination.

Now another thing has been done, and it follows that we must do something. The city has graded Fifth St., between Seward and Main. The property I now occupy has a two hundred foot frontage on Fifth. As I told you some time ago our fence has gone up, but have been wait-



ing for the city to grade before rebuilding it so we could put the new fence in on a <sup>an</sup> permanent grade. I have been proping up the old fence to make it last till the grade was an assured thing. Now we have the street nicely graded and new sidewalks in. Our neighbors are putting up their new fences and we need ours. We will have to have four hundred feet of fencing as we front both on Seward and Fifth streets. Just what it will cost to build a respectable fence, one in keeping with our surroundings, I have not ascertained. But I ask to have this done immediately. The property we are now using will then be in fine shape. I have worked at the lot until I have it nicely leveled and a new fence will complete the dress it needs. I would not ask for this if it was not imperative. I ask to have this done and take the money out of one of the monthly instalments of Capt. Johnston. Please do not delay about giving me your sanction for this.

S Another thing- I have been asking for some of the regular monthly vouchers and been looking for them for months but up to date have not received them. I enclose vouchers of my own for interpreter's service for three months past. Please enclose regular vouchers when you reply to this.

I have worked hard on the Johnston matter to bring it to issue, and am glad I have been rewarded with success at last. But Johnston, poor man, has had some very severe reverses within the last year and was not to blame for the delay. The fire which I reported last spring cleaned him out of \$15,000. But now his prospects are brightening and if all goes well he will soon be in good financial condition. He is now where he can carry his contract with us all right. But if anything turns up that he could not we have nothing to lose.

As ever,

Yours very sincerely,

L. H. Jones



*E. M. L.*  
*Lost papers in*  
*this please*  
August 4th, 1909.

Rev. L. F. Jones,  
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Jones:

We beg to acknowledge your favor of the 21st ult., to our Mr. Olin, with which you enclose draft on New York for \$500., on account of the purchase price agreed upon to be paid by Captain Johnston for the Juneau property which amount has been credited on the contract.

As regards the other matters, I fear that they will all have to be laid aside until Mr. Olin's return, as he left a day or two since for his annual vacation. He will return about the first of September, at which time your letter will be placed in his hands.

Yours very truly,

For the Treasurer.

B/B



*Salv sent  
Aug. 27/9*



JUNEAU, ALASKA, Aug. 21, 190

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My Dear Mr Olin:-

Last spring I was elected by the Presbytery of Alaska as delegate to Synod which will meet the first week this coming October in Seattle. As I must leave Juneau not later than Sept. the 25,<sup>th</sup> and as my monthly salary does not usually reach me until after that date, and as I will need my September salary before I leave here not only for my travelling expenses, but to send a portion to my wife and daughter, I will esteem it a great favor if you will kindly advance my September salary just as soon as you receive this letter. It will not reach me any too soon then. Of course send the interpreter's salary also.

I am awaiting with interest your reply about the Johnson matter and authority to build the new fence which we so greatly need.

Johnson has been gone a month and I look for him back any day. He did not expect to be gone so long as this. For this reason I have not sent you the Agreement signed as required. Will attend to it as soon as he returns. My former letter explains why this was not done when Johnson paid over the \$500. in June.

Trusting that you will accede to the above request, and advance the september salaries, with kindest regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*L. F. Jones*



September 3rd, 1909.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

Your letters of July 21st and August 21st, I find awaiting me upon my return from vacation. The office has already sent you a receipt for the \$500. payment of Capt. Johnston enclosed with the first of these letters.

We note that Mr. Johnston has not as yet signed the Agreement, but we trust that by the time this letter reaches you, he will have returned ~~you~~ ~~to~~ and that the agreement will have been signed and in proper order. We appreciate Capt. Johnston's generosity in assisting you in the roofing of the house.

With regard to the fencing, I shall have to ask you to wait until the officers of our Boards are back from vacation. They will all have returned within a few days and we will take this matter up in conference, and you will be immediately notified. In any event, however, I think it would be wise for you to forward Capt. Johnston's monthly payments here as they are received. We shall thus have a full and complete record upon our books of the receipt of these funds. If the fencing is authorized, bills can be made against the office and they will be taken care of.

I am enclosing your monthly vouchers as requested. I do not see why a regular supply was not sent you from the Secretary's office when your Commission was forwarded.

I trust that your visit to Presbytery in October may be an enjoyable and profitable one.

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer.

(Enclosure)

O/S



WOMAN'S BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
156 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.



MRS. DARWIN R. JAMES, PRESIDENT  
MRS. F. S. BENNETT, ACTING PRESIDENT  
MRS. ELLA ALEXANDER DOOLE, SECRETARY  
MRS. M. J. GILDERSLLEEVE, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY  
MISS S. F. LINCOLN, TREASURER  
MISS M. JOSEPHINE PETRIE, YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECRETARY  
MRS. DELOS EDWIN FINKS, EDITOR HOME MISSION MONTHLY

MRS. SUSAN L. STORER, SEC. FREEDMEN'S DEPT.  
513 BESSEMER BUILDING, PITTSBURGH, PA.

Dictated.

New York, September 22, 1909.

Mr. H. C. Olin, Treasurer,  
156 Fifth Ave., City.

Dear Mr. Olin:-

Referring to your letters of September 16th and September 20th, in regard to the erection of a fence on the street frontage of the church property at Juneau, Alaska, will say that it was presented at the meeting of the Woman's Board on Tuesday and the women declined to authorize the payment for the erection of the fence, feeling that the people of Juneau would be benefitted if they shared in the financial responsibility for the support of their church work.

Yours very truly,

*Ella A. Doole,*  
Secretary.



September 23rd, 1909.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

I am at last able to report to you in the matter of the fence which you desired should be built by about the church property from the funds received from the sale of the old school property. Our Woman's Board had the matter before them on Tuesday and I am this morning in receipt of a note from the Secretary, saying: "The Woman's Board declines to authorize the payment for the erection of a fence, feeling that the people of Juneau would be benefitted if they share in the financial responsibility of the support of their church work to the extent of building this fence."

Can you not inspire your people to this endeavor?

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer.

O/S



G. L. THOMPSON

JUNEAU, ALASKA, March 4, 1910

190

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Olin:-

Enclosed please find vouchers for back months.

As soon as I could do so after my arrival here I called on Capt. Johnston. I found him in a very weak condition and unable to transact any business. He had just come out of the hospital after several weeks of sickness in the course of which he was very low and not expected to live.

I was shocked to learn on my arrival here that Mr. Bunge, the gentleman who was looking after Capt. Johnston's payments on the property, was dead, having been accidentally killed in the Treadwell mine by falling down a shaft several hundred feet. Just how it happened no one knows. Mr. Bunge was found at the bottom badly broken up and dead. This unfortunate affair occurred about the last of January. Two days before his death Mr. Bunge told the cashier of our bank here that he expected in February to pay off the entire balance due the Board on the property, get the deed, and hold the same until Capt. Johnston paid him. But alas the poor man in a day or so after met the terrible fate already mentioned.

At the time Mr. Bunge was killed, Capt. Johnston was very sick in the hospital here. When he was told of Bunge's death it was such a shock it came near sending him to his grave.

Mr. Bunge knew of the mine holdings of Capt. Johnston and that some day he would come into money, so was ready to back the Capt. with what cash he needed.



Capt. Johnston, poor man, has had so many reverses within the last three years it is a wonder the man has not lost his mind. Through sickness, fire and civil suits in mining litigation he has lost thousands of dollars. Consequently when he assumed our last proposition about our property he was obliged to get some friend to help him out, and Mr. Bunge was that friend.

Mr. Bunge had paid up to the time of his death four payments amounting to four hundred dollars. This money is in the bank here and in a few days will be forwarded to you with the Agreement which I am waiting for Capt. Johnston to gather strength enough to go before a Notary with me and sign. I called on Capt. Johnston yesterday. He is yet too weak to go any distance from the house, but is daily gathering strength and thinks he will be able in a few days to go with me to a Notary and sign the document (in duplicate).

He showed me yesterday the exact situation he is in. Mr. Bunge's death left him for the time being financially stranded, so he could not go on with the payments. He showed me yesterday correspondence where he has heavy mining sales pending and the prospects of soon coming into money to take up the burden of paying for the property where Mr. Bunge laid it down. But in order to save himself with us the poor man will need a little more time. As he has all along acted in good faith, kept me posted as to his financial standing, and because of his many discouraging reverses, in justice and out of pity to the man, I think we should give him a little more time to enable him to extricate himself. I know this matter has held fire a long time, but calamity after calamity has followed the man and hindered him from doing what he so much desired to do, namely, pay for the property and get his deed. Mr. Bunge's untimely death was a severe blow to him.



Even though he should finally fail to meet the balance due (which I feel he will not) we have something to show for the delay and annoyance which we have had in the matter as he has already put up \$3,000., including the \$100. advanced for the repair of the roof of this manse.

Taking all things into consideration and in view of the reverses the man has suffered, I recommend that the Board wait on him a little while longer that he may have time to turn himself in some way either by his mining sales or in securing another friend to help him out.

The correspondence which he showed me yesterday looked good, and he is hopeful that he will soon have money again. The letter informed him that there was \$1500. worth of ore on the dump at his mine and as soon as it was treated the money would be turned over to him, and that the sales of property pending were hopeful of going through.

As I said before I will forward the four hundred with the Agreement as soon as he is able to sign.

Kindly deduct from my March salary \$8. as a contribution of our native church to the Board of Home Missions.

When I returned I found the man whom I left in charge when I went away had left the field two weeks previous to my arrival. He went to the States and left no report of any nature about the work. I do not know what contributions he received from the congregations, whether he had enough to meet running expenses or more. Owing to this gap our contributions to the Boards cannot be as large this time as in former years. He paid no light bills; so I found a light bill of twelve dollars on my return which I paid.

Our work is running along nicely now and I pray it may so continue.

With kindest personal regards, I am, Sincerely yours,

*L. F. Jones*



March 19th, 1910.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

Yours of March 4th came to hand a few days since and has had the consideration of the officers of the Board of Home Missions and of the Woman's Board.

The main question involved therein is as to what attitude we shall take toward Capt. Johnston in the carrying out of his agreement, in view of his ill fortune and sickness it has finally been agreed that we shall hold off for a while and give him a chance to carry out the arrangement which we trust may be very speedily, both on his account and ours.

It would be well, however, if you could get his signature to the agreement, which can be forwarded as you suggest, with the funds, to this office. We are certainly most sympathetic with him in his ill fortune, and trust that better things are in store for him.

We note your request that we shall deduct from your March salary \$8.00 and credit the same as a contribution of your Church to Home Missions. March salary went out about the time your letter was received here, and before we could make the deduction. We are, however, crediting up the amount and will deduct it from your April pay. Let us thank you and the people of your Church for this kindly gift.



Rev. L. F. Jones,

2.

I am sorry that you had such an experience with the man you left in charge of the work, and trust that no serious damage has been done.

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer.

O/S



C. L. THOMPSON

JUNEAU, ALASKA, March 28, 1910 190

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Olin:-

Enclosed you will please find the Agreement properly signed and also the draft for \$400. These, as you will remember, were referred to in my former letter. The \$400. constitute the four monthly payments that were made according to Agreement.

X Now Mr. Olin I must take up the matter that was laid on the table last fall. You remember that I wrote to you about building a new fence. We talked about it back and forth until winter came on and no fence was built. Spring finds us with our fence all broken down. It is so rotten that it cannot be repaired. It has stood for twenty years and done well to do so in a climate like this. I patched it and patched it until I could patch it no longer as the whole thing is absolutely rotten.

Now I would like to be authorized to put up a new fence. Just what it will cost I cannot tell, but I will do it at the least possible expense. I will do the most of the work, if not all, myself. All I want is your sanction, and I will do it and send you the bill.

I cannot count on the natives, as they are nearly all away, to give any material help in the matter.

I have also our porch to repair as the strong winds demolished the railing and posts of that this winter, and one of our chimneys to repair which an earthquake partly demolished about the fifteenth of this month. These repairs will be light as to expense. I am sure the whole will not exceed a hundred dollars. I will bring it as much



under that as I possibly can. By making these repairs our property will be put in good shape. As it is now it makes a very bad impression.

The tourist season will soon be on,,and it only hurts the cause for strangers to see the property in this shape. People will not give to what they consider is a dying cause,and delapidated property certainly gives this impression. Well kept property makes friends for the Board.

I trust that I shall hear from you and that favorably.

X  
I will write any moves that Capt. Johnston makes about the property.

With warmest personal regards,I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*L. F. Jones*



April 20th, 1910.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Jones:-

Your letter of March 28th, enclosing a draft for \$400. covering four monthly payments on the Johnston agreement, together with the agreement signed, is at hand. Although the agreement does not quite fit the case as to dates now, I think we will let it stand for the present at least, to see how Mr. Johnston will work out.

Please keep us posted as to any developments. He is, of course, aware that technically the option has not been complied with. I trust, however, that he may be in such shape financially shortly, that he may be able to make payment of the whole amount due.

As to the fence: This matter will have to come before our Woman's Board, and I will write you later relative thereto.

Yours very truly,

Treasurer.

O/S



April 30th, 1910.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

At last I am able to reply completely to your letter dated March 28th, with which came a draft for \$400. covering the amount in your hands last paid down by Mr. Johnston on the purchase of the old property at Juneau. I now hand you a receipt for the amount and hope that Mr. Johnston has reached the point where he is again paying in, in regular monthly payments.

Of course it will be recognized that the agreement which you have returned, and which was signed only a few weeks ago, does not represent thoroughly all the facts in the case, especially as to dates, but if he resumes and continues his payments, I have no doubt the matter can be worked out without trouble.

Now as to the repairs: The matter has finally been acted upon by our Women's Board and you are authorized to go on with the building of the new fence, the repairs of the porch and the chimney to the maximum of \$100., bills being forwarded here for payment when the work is completed.

I trust that this may put your property in good shape for some years to come.

Very cordially yours,

O/S

Treasurer.



Juneau, Alaska, April 30, 1910.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My Dear Mr. Olin:-

*Sent 4/21/10*  
My salary for April came to-day, but no salary for interpreter. I think the former plan, sending the two checks in the one letter, was better and safer than in sending them in <sup>E</sup>sparate letters. When I do not get the interpreter's salary on time it embarrasses me; for as soon as the month is up the interpreter clamors for the salary. If it is not at hand I have to advance it. So I sincerely hope that you can see your way clear to send the two checks together in the future.

I would also call your attention to the fact that my March salary was eleven dollars short, the check being drawn for \$80.70 instead of \$91.70. April's check was drawn for \$83.65 which was correct as you deducted the \$8. contribution of our church to the Board.

You will be kind enough to make up the March deficiency.

I received your letter relative to the receipt of the \$400. and the AGREEMENT between the Board and Capt. Johnston. The latter is in the States at present. As soon as he returns, or I hear from him, I shall write you.

As to the fence, if the officers of the Board could see how our property appears to the public with the present delapidated, rotten fence about it, they would not delay one minute about telling me to go ahead and build a new one. Twenty years is a long service for a fence in this wet climate. But by patching and patching it I have made the present one last that long.

Very sincerely yours,

*L. L. Jones*

MAY 10 1910



June 28, 1910.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear MR. Olin:-

As you directed, I forwarded the inclosed application to Brother Falconer. After filling out the blank, he has returned it to me, and I am sending it on to you.

We have no Church Erection committee in our Presbytery; so we will ask you to kindly sign the application and pass it to Dr. White.

I sincerely hope that the Board of C.E., will see its way clear to grant the necessary amount at once so that Brother Falconer can put up the addition before fall.

Capt. Johnston recently returned to Juneau. I have talked with him about the property and showed him your letters to me regarding your wish in the matter. He assured me three or four days ago that he felt reasonably certain that he would be able to make good within thirty days. He is aware of the fact that according to our agreement he has fell down, and we could declare his payments forfeited. But I assured him that the Board was willing to give him a chance to make good WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME.

As the Government has appropriated \$240,000 for public buildings, and its representatives are looking for a site here in Juneau for the same, I have agreed with these representatives to recommend to the Board to sell to the government if it desires our property and negotiates for the same within thirty days. Capt. Johnston has been informed about this. Several sites are now held under consideration, our half block being one of them. But the government will want the whole block or <sup>w</sup>no<sup>e</sup> of it. While I do not wish to see Capt. Johnston lose, yet I feel that the Board's interest must be conserved,

As soon as I have anything definite I shall write you.

Very sincerely yours, L. L. Jones

JUL 8 1910



# Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA.

WILLIAM L. DISTIN  
SECRETARY.



Juneau, July 30, 1910.

Mr. H. C. Olin,

156 Fifth Avenue,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

This office is in receipt of your letter of the 15th. inst. enclosing Annual Statement of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America to be placed upon its files also check No. 03169 for \$1.00 drawn in my favor on the Bank of the Metropolis to cover the fees therefor. The foregoing named document has been placed upon the files of this office under even date.

Enclosed herewith please find receipt for the amount of your remittance \$1.00.

Yours very truly,

Secretary of Alaska.

*W. L.*



August 15th, 1910.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

Please make out a deed for the old mission property in Block No. 19 of the town of Juneau (property which Johnston has option on) in favor of Mr. George W. Bunge. This Mr. Bunge, who is a brother of William Bunge who was killed here last January, is now here and ready to pay the balance of forty six hundred dollars due on the property in behalf of Capt. Johnston. He and Capt. Johnston agree to making title vest in him (Mr. Bunge). Mr. McAfee was here Saturday and we went over the whole situation with Capt. Johnston and Mr. Bunge and Judge Gunison, our attorney. Mr. Bunge arrived here on the same boat with Mr. McAfee. Mr. McAfee went north Saturday evening, and since leaving Mr. Bunge has decided to pay off the balance due cash down. Kindly send this instrument conveying the property to Mr. Bunge, <sup>to me</sup> at your very earliest convenience.

I shall send bills receipted for the improvements made about property we now occupy shortly. The necessary improvements have been made and total up to about ~~175x~~ \$107. We will take care of the excess over the hundred. We had to build more fencing and chimney than I at first figure on; hence the excess. But it had to be done. All bills are in except the paint bill. All will be forwarded to your office soon.

Let me again urge you to get the deed off to me at the earliest possible moment. Wire me if you wish me to act to save time. Remember that the Board can give warranty deed. Such you have for the property. Had a most profitable and pleasant visit from Mr. McAfee.

Very sincerely yours,

L. F. Jones

AUG 26 1910



State of New York )  
 ) ss.:  
City and County of New York )

Associate Secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the  
Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11-10-10 BY 60322 UCBAW

October 22, 1910.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

I would have written you long before about property matters but have been waiting for Mr. Bunge to come through with his part of the agreement. Mr. Bunge advised me last August to send for the deed and while the deed was being prepared and forwarded to me he would go back to Minnesota, collect the money (\$4600.) and send it on. In due time, as you know, the board made out the deed and forwarded it to me. I received the deed with your letter of instructions in September. Since then I have been waiting to hear from Mr. Bunge. No word came from him till the first week in October, and then not to me but to his agent here. Mr. Bunge sent the money (in drafts) to a Mr. McNaughton accompanied with a letter instructing him not to pay the money over and take the deed unless he (Mr. McNaughton) could assure him (Mr. Bunge) that there was yet a prospect to sell to the government, or if not to the government then to some one else WITHIN ~~THE~~ ONE MONTH after the property had been turned over to him.

Now the bids for property for the public building site were closed the 18th of August, but as they were all so high the government had not accepted any of them at the time Mr. McNaughton received the Bunge letter. As there was a prospect (and is yet) that the government would call for new bids, Mr. McNaughton wrote to Mr. Bunge the situation, the future prospects of the town, advising him to take the property, but could not assure him that he could sell to the government or any one else within the short period of time stipulated. Mr. McNaughton requested an answer to his letter by wire as to wheth-



#2. Mr. Olin.

er he should close the deal and pay over the money or return the drafts. We have been waiting for this wire and should have received it at least ten days ago, but Mr. Bunge, evidently, has been vacillating, as he has all through from the beginning of negotiations in this matter, and only today did I get word through his agent that a message had been received calling for the return of the money. Hence the Bunge deal is declared off. He is the loser and not the Board. We have nothing to lose by his backing down. We will sell without a doubt very shortly as Juneau's future has not been brighter for years. With large public buildings going up in the near future, with large stamp-mills now in process of erection and other business activities in motion Juneau is on the upward march.

Mr. Bunge showed all along an unwarranted timidity and practically demanded (what we could not give) an iron-clad guarantee that if he took the property he could turn it over at once and make two or three thousand dollars on the transaction. Mr. McAfee, I think, will recall his shyness about investing in real estate here. Mr. Bunge has not shown himself the man that Capt. Johnston has.

Capt. Johnston is not here at present but is in the States and may come back well prepared to shoulder his own burdens. We look for him any boat.

As Mr. Bunge's actions affect Capt. Johnston, I shall inform him as soon as he arrives of Mr. Bunge's withdrawal. The Capt. may have the means himself to pay off the balance due when he returns and take the property. I know that he is desirous of owning it and has shown good faith all through.

If Johnston on his return does not make good, and some other purchaser appears, I shall ask the Board to authorize me to change the name of Bunge in the deed to the name of the would-be purchaser so



#3. Mr. Olin.

we can cinch the matter and avoid these dangerous delays we are subjected to when we have to communicate with the office in New York.

This, therefore, explains why I have not written sooner concerning the matter.

I have just learned, much to my surprise, that the town has taxed the Board's property now for sale for the past four years and some penalties have been added. As no notice was ever sent to me about this tax, and as I supposed all along that ALL church property was exempt from taxation, I was kept in total ignorance of the matter.

As soon as heard of it I waited on the mayor and asked for an explanation. He said the law exempts all property used for "charitable and religious" purposes. He maintained as this portion of the Board's holdings now for sale is used neither for charitable nor religious purposes it is legitimate taxable property. Of course what we are using and occupying for church purposes is exempted. I mean to wait on the next meeting of the city council and see if I cannot prevail on them to waive all penalties if not the tax itself since we were kept in ignorance of their action in taxing the property. For as I knew that church property is exempted from taxation, I had no reason to suppose they were levying any taxes on any of our property here. Had I known we could have at least avoided the penalties by paying the tax when it was due. If the council insist on its payment I would suggest that we add that much to the sale price of the property. I will write you full particulars about it after I have conferred with the council. I have some warm friends in that council and think I can get at least the penalties remitted. The whole four years tax, I understand, amounts, with penalties, to about \$200.

I herein submit to you a statement accompanied with vouchers receipted concerning the building and painting the new fence. I was



#4. Mr. Olin.

waiting for this Bunge matter to be decided to send this along at the same time. Had I known it would have taken so long I long ago would have sent this statment and the vouchers on. You may see from their dates that they were early settled.

For the outlay we had about two hundred and seventy feet of firstclass fencing built and painted, a brick chimney built from the roof up and and the front porch repaired. This entire work cost one hundred and seven dollars and eighty five cents (\$107.85). You sent one hundred dollars and we took care of the excess (\$7.85) at this end.

Also please find monthly voucher for interpreter and myself for September and October.

May this find you in excellent health, and believe me, that I shall do all in my power to care for the interests of the Board here.

Very sincerely yours,

*L. H. Jones*

P.s. The Government has decided on the site for the Governor's mansion. This will be built right next to our own holdings--the native church. When this building is erected and the grounds all improved it ought to enhance <sup>the value of</sup> the Board's property we now occupy very much. A forty thousand dollar building is to be erected for the Governor's home.



November 25th, 1910.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Jones:-

Your favor of the 22nd, came duly to hand some days since, and has had the attention of the officers of the Board.

Surely this negotiation has had a checkered history, but it may all work out, as you say, to the best interests of the Board. If Capt. Johnston does not make good, and you get another opportunity to sell at a good price, I trust you will let us know promptly, so that immediate decision may be arrived at. Whether a deed with the name changed in it, as you suggest, in case you find a new purchaser, would be valid, I am not sure. Your legal friends will tell you as to that when the time comes.

As to the taxes: The Mayor, to whom you applied, called your attention to the fact that "all property used for charitable and religious purposes was exempt from taxation". A good point to make with him, and with the counsel, would be that whatever income, or whatever funds were received from the sale of this property, would be used for charitable purposes, that is, the funds all go in to promote the work of the Board, so much of which has been done right there in Juneau and in Alaska. I trust they may see their way clear to exempt the property from taxation finally.

The statement and vouchers receipted, covering the building and painting the new fence, etc., appear to be in order. We are glad that the property is now in more presentable shape.

Certainly the location of the Governor's Mansion next to our property ought to enhance the value of our holdings, and we trust that ere long a sale may be made at a substantial advance over the figure at which we have been negotiating.

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer



November 25, 1910.

DEC  
1910

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

The officials here have decided that the best and most desirable place in Juneau for the new federal building is Block 19., half of which belongs to the Board and is the property that Capt. Johnston had options on.

In the Blok there are one or two property holders who are beyond all reason in their price, and one lot belongs to an estate which to obtain by regular process of law would take months and cause much delay in the erection of a federal building. The only course the official<sup>s</sup> see to pursue in order to get a site within time to commence the building in the coming spring is to condemn the whole Block and secure it in this way. This they have had to do in order to get a site for the Governor's mansion.

The Governor, as agent for the government, approached me about the Board's four lots in Block 19, asking if I would agree, in case of condemnation proceedings, to a consent verdict of \$8500.00 for the same. This I agreed to, after consulting Judge Gunnison, fully believing that it will meet the Board's hearty approval. Were we to trust to a jury to fix the price we would not get more but probably less.

I am in a position to judge of real estate values in Juneau. About three months ago one of our heaviest property holders died. The estate amounts to about \$50,000.00. Together with B.M. Behrends, Banker, and G.W. Swan, Agent for the Pacific Coast S.S. Co., I was appointed one of the appraisers<sup>of the estate.</sup> We have just about completed our duties as such. This has given me an opportunity to study the real



values of property here. So I am convinced that any jury under oath would hesitate to give a verdict for even \$8000.00 for the mission property.

Being therefore firmly convinced that the Governor's offer is better for us than to trust to a jury to set the price, I have agreed to his proposition, and I now write for the Board's endorsement for my action.

I took this also into consideration, that if a federal building is erected on the old mission site it will enhance the value of our property retained. The Governor's mansion will be built in Block 22 and beside the Board's property in this Block. So with the Block 19 just across the street improved with a fine federal building and ~~and~~ the corner next to us in the same Block that we now occupy improved with a Governor's mansion, the property of the Board retained ought to advance in value considerably.

Now another matter of importance. When Mr. McAfee was here last August I called his attention to the foundation of the manse we occupy. He saw himself the bad condition it was in and how the house is traveling down hill in consequence. Since he was here the house has moved several inches and the back wall has separated from the floor four inches. I thought I could let the matter go until spring. But the other day I became convinced that a foundation must go under at once. I called an expert on such work to examine it, and his verdict was that it was not safe to let it go any longer as the house was liable to go down any day. To avoid any further damages and to save the building from collapsing, I have set the man to work putting under a new foundation. He says it will cost approximately \$75.00— he cannot tell to the dollar until finished.

As this work was absolutely necessary for the preservation of



the building, as well as our safety, I am sure that the Board will approve of my action, and that you will forward the \$75.00 to pay for the work.

If the work costs less I will refund the difference; if more we will in some way endeavor to meet the excess.

I am glad that we have such fair prospects of selling the mission property to the government for \$8500. It has been determined that they will have that Block; so we are reasonably sure that it will go through this time. However, I have been disappointed so much, to use a homely figure, I will not count my chickens until they are hatched this time.

Trusting that I shall have your early reply, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*L. F. Jones*



L. F. JONES, PASTOR  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

~~A. L. THOMPSON~~

may 13, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

Your Code message was received to-day. I consulted the key and had no difficulty in deciphering the same. I proceeded to the District Attorney, who has the condemnation matter in hand, and showed him the message.

He says, that according to the records in this court, the Board has not complied entirely with the requirements of the law in regard to appointing their agent.

I enclose a form, placed in my hand by the District Attorney, which you are to fill out and return immediately.

This will place me in position ~~that~~ they may serve summons on me to appear for the Board and show cause, if any, why they should not condemn.

They have already served their summons on the other property holders in the block. They are anxious to get us in line so as to get the matter through as quickly as possible.

This is to be an amicable <sup>d</sup>comemnation affair. As the other property holders were obliged to come down in their prices, and the public jumped in and helped to make up the difference between what property holders (excepting ourselves) wanted and what the Government was willing to pay, I was obliged to fall two hundred and fifty dollars on our price. I enclose clippings from the local press <sup>which</sup> will throw light on this feature of the matter.

It is now understood that we are to get eighty two hundred and fifty dollars (\$8250.00) for the four lots in block No. 19. This price is agreeable to the authorities and to all concerned.

The Government will build a two hundred thousand dollar



Mr.Olin,#2.

building in this block. This will enhance the value of our other holdings.

Last fall we had every prospect of having the Governor's mansion built next to our present mission church. But owing to the action of one of the property holders concerned,we lost that. The project is now to build it in another part of the town.

Had not the citizens taken this other matter up as they did,I think we would have lost the Federal building to our block. I was appointed one of the committee to hustle for the money and save the building to our block.

Now the only delay in the matter is waiting for this form to be filled out and returned.

We could well afford to throw off the two hundred and fifty to help the good cause along,as it sells our property and enhances the value of what we have left.

The survey of the block is now being made by the government. All proceedings,so far as they can go,have been instituted.

You will therefore<sup>E</sup><sub>^</sub> kindly expedite this matter with all speed, for you know delays are dangerous.

We will need two hundred and twenty five dollars at least for the painting of the church and manse. They need it badly and I would have urged it before this only I have been waiting for the sale of this property so I could get it out of this fund.

Enclosed please find monthly vouchers. I informed you some time ago that I am entirely out of the "Blues" for Interpreter. Consequently I am obliged to send the white ones.

Very cordially yours,

*L. F. Jones*



ROYAL A. GUNNISON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

May 13th, 1911.

Doctor H. C. Olin, Treasurer,  
Presbyterian Board of Home Missions,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Doctor Olin:

Replying to your letter of April 15th, which came to hand on the 24th, enclosing a copy of your letter of March 11th, I beg to say that it is my impression that I reported to you last Fall, that the Register of the Land Office has issued to me, the certificates for the Haines and Hoonah Missions. That is 266.54 acres at Haines, and 15.16 acres at Hoonah. There has been a protest of some kind or nature filed against the Haines property, and a Special Agent of the U.S. Land Office has the matter under consideration. I have been unable to ascertain what they were investigating with reference to the location. He has had it held up for some months now, and I find that it is impossible to ascertain the status of the case as the Register of the Land Office is absent from the District, in attendance upon the trials in some of these coal cases. I am writing to him to give me what information he can with reference to the status of the place.

With reference to the question you asked as to the lease or sale of lands of the <sup>Haines</sup> Mission, I have to say that I think that until the patent for this ground is issued to you, I would advise that you do not consider the lease or sale of the land at the Haines Mission, or the disposing of the timber. It would be just as valuable when the patent comes, and if any action is taken by you at this time, it might complicate matters with reference to the issuance of the patent.



To Dr.H.C.Olin.

5/13/11

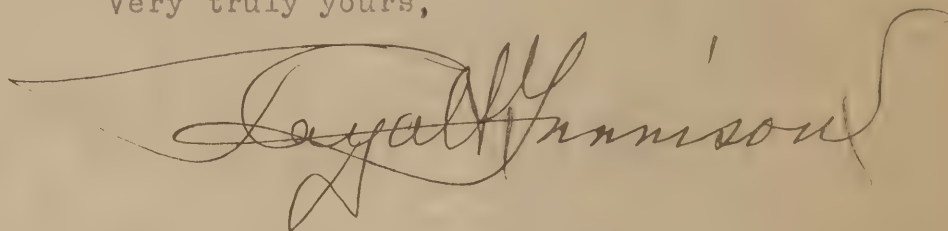
2.

I am leaving for Wrangell tomorrow and shall then do what I can with reference to the Wrangell location. Nothing can be done in the local Land Office until the return of the Register, and that is entirely indefinite, as he is held <sup>at Seattle as a witness</sup> subject to the direction of the District Attorney.

I trust that you will pardon my long delay in answering these letters, but I have been absent from Juneau a great deal, on business, and my mail has unhappily accumulated to an uncomfortable proportion. I will watch matters in the Land Office and as soon as anything can be done I will take care of it.

Very truly yours,

RAG/FBO.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Layall Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "L" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.



May 17, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

I have been requested by the Assistant District Attorney to send you the enclosed instrument and also request you to have it executed at the earliest possible date and returned to me.

When the District Attorney made out the instrument he was under the impression that John G. Heid was retained by the Board as their attorney. I informed him that Judge Gunnison is now looking after the Board's interests in Alaska. He then directed me to cross out the name of John G. Heid and insert instead the name of Royal A. Gunnison, which I have done.

You will observe that the instrument makes the minimum price \$8500.00. As I said, or rather explained, in my former letter \$250 comes off that for the town fund to make up the difference between what the Government has definitely offered for the block and what the property holders demand. I trust that my former letter together with the clippings enclosed in that letter, made the situation clear to you.

It is understood that the committee appointed to appraise the properties will award the prices demanded. Hence the citizens of the town together with the property holders of the block who reduced their prices, some five hundred, ourselves two hundred and fifty, and others one hundred and fifty dollars each, came to the rescue so that the burden ~~xxxxxxx~~ of meeting the Government's price would not fall altogether on the property holders involved.

Seeing Judge Gunnison's name reminds me to tell you that when I received your letter some time ago requesting me to stir him



Mr.Olin,#2.

up about the land titles here in Alaska,I did so at once. I told him that you were desirous of hearing from him concerning the matters he had in hand. He said that he would write you at once,and no doubt you have heard from him long before this.

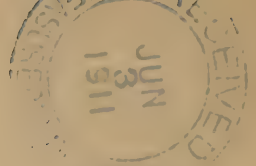
Kindly have the enclosed instrument executed at once and returned.

Wishing you a happy and successful time at the General Assembly,I am,

Very sincerely yours.

*L. F. Jones*





May 23, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

Your two letters dated May 12 and 13, the former about patents to land and the latter about my agency, were received yesterday.

In regard to Judge Gunnison and the patents, I told you in a letter which must have crossed yours that I had spoken to the Judge telling him that you were very desirous of hearing from him as you wished to know the status of affairs in regard to your titles.

He then (when I saw him weeks ago) <sup>said</sup> that he would write to you at once and let you know how matters stood. I am therefore surprised to learn from your letter that he had not written to <sup>you</sup> up to May 12. He is now in Skagway and will not be back for a week. He left Juneau day before yesterday. As soon as he returns I will see him and make the demand of him that you request.

He has the reputation of being a very careful, conscientious, upright and honorable lawyer. The fact that he once sat on the Bench here led me to believe that he should be the very man to know how to proceed to clear up titles. It was one of his important duties as a Judge to decide about such. For these reasons I recommended him to be the Board's counsel.

Now in regard to the agency. When they commenced to institute condemnation proceedings to acquire the mission property, I was approached by the Assistant District Attorney to find out who is the agent of the Board here in Alaska. I told him that I was your agent. He then looked the matter up in the court records. He found



Mr. Blin #2.

a record showing that the Board had designated me as its agent and giving my place of residence; also a record that I had consented to act as agent. But he claims that this does not go far enough.

The law requires that when an agent removes from the District, that is an agent of any corporation, or for any reason surrenders the agency, then the corporation shall proceed to appoint another agent precisely in the ~~same~~ manner as it did in the first place. That is, it must <sup>not</sup> only designate the name and place of residence of its new agent, but that it must also place a certificate in the hands of the court here in which it is duly certified that the corporation gives it<sup>s</sup> consent that its agent can be summoned and sued in behalf of the corporation. Now they cannot find on the records here that the Board made any such certification in connection with my appointment.

The District Attorney here is satisfied that you meant me to have the full powers as your own appointed agent. But he says when the government scrutinizes my appointment and finds this element has been left out, they will hold up the transfer of the property until you have complied with the law to the very letter.

The instrument sent you in my last letter was to meet this emergency. When that is duly executed all will be plain sailing and the property is sold.

Now the District Attorney here tells me that he is working to have the government to accept the deeds outright and waive the condemnation proceedings. This he wishes to accomplish to save a whole lot of time. The Judge of the Court will soon go to the westward to hold court and will not be back again until next October. If they must proceed with the condemnation this will hold the transfer up until his return. As the authorities here are desirous of getting *the* matter settled as quickly as possible they are working *at* for the trans-



Mr. Olin #3.

fer without having to resort to condemnation proceedings.

The only hitch about this is that one lot in the block is in an estate. If it can be shown that the ~~maxxxx~~ party who is now in possession is the only possible heir (and this can be done) the attorney thinks the matter will go through.

In case it does go through he will let me know and then I am to direct you to send the old deed or deeds you now have in your possession together with a properly executed deed direct to the department at Washington, and the department may be instructed to issue the check for \$8,500. to you without its going through my hand as the Board's local agent.

If this change of proceedings is made you will be duly informed by me. The Dist., Att'y., here will let me know soon whether the change will be made or not, and I will keep you duly informed.

I think of nothing more to be presented to you at this writing.

Very cordially yours,

*L. F. Jones*



May 27, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

In my former letter I informed you that the District Attorney, who has in charge the purchase of the mission property for the Government, was thinking of abandoning the condemnation proceeding method of acquiring the property, and take deeds outright in order to hasten matters. This he has done, and I am sending you enclosed in this a Deed which he wishes the Board to execute at their earliest convenience and forward the same, after it has been properly executed to the United States Attorney General, Washington, D.C.

When you send this to the Attorney General you may direct him if you wish to make the check out in your favor and send it directly to you, or to your agent here, as you see fit.

Now, before the District Attorney here could make a final settlement of matters, he had to satisfy himself that the property was clear from all encumbrances. Yesterday he learned that the city had imposed taxes on the property for five years past. He came to me about it, said he was anxious to get all of his final papers off to Washington by the Boat that leaves here to-morrow, and wished to know what could be done about the taxes. He said the Government would refuse to go a head with the matter until the taxes were paid or remitted by the city council. He himself offered to see the Mayor and see what could be done. He did so at once, and the Mayor called a special council meeting to-day at one o'clock to take up this tax question. As the District Attorney informed me last evening that it would be favorably acted upon, I did not appear at the meeting of the council held to-day. Immediately after the meeting they issued the enclosed notice to me, which shows you in what manner they determined the question. Both I and the District Attorney were very much surprised at this action of the council.

Seeing that if the matter was not settled at once, things would get in such a muddle we might lose the sale of the property, I carried the matter to our attorney, Judge Gunnison. After sizing the situation up he called on the mayor to see what could be done. The Mayor said that nothing further could be done about it until the next meeting of the council next Friday night. Then we could appear before that august body and if they felt disposed to remit the taxes, well and good. Well, that did not help us out about getting things in shape so the District Attorney could forward all the papers on this boat. In order to get this matter through I suggested to Judge Gunnison that I have Mr. B.M. Behrends, city Treasurer, to take up the taxes, issue me the receipts in the name of the Board and John Johnston (in whose name they had taxed the property), and take my note as the Board's agent for the same. Judge Gunnison endorsed this idea and I proceeded to carry it out. Mr. B.M. Behrends gladly fell in line and thought it was the sensible way out of the dilemma.

Next Friday we will take the matter up with the Council, and if they will not remit the taxes then we will have to stand it.

If we are obliged to pay it, then the thing for the Board to do is to take it out of Johnston's equity, as it is due to his holding the option that the tax was imposed to begin with. The assessor, without warrent, jumped to the conclusion that because he



Mr. Olin #2.

(Johnston) held an option, he should be taxed. This, as I informed last fall, ran along for years without my knowledge.

So this is the way out of it for the Board without losing. And under the premises it is also just.

After taking up the taxes in this way, I then informed the District Attorney, and he was very well pleased with the arrangement. He then proceeded with the matter, and says all is plain sailing now so far as he can see.

Kindly keep in mind when you get your check for the property that two hundred and fifty dollars comes out of the amount as our refund to the citizens' subscription list, and, if the city council insists, two hundred and forty six dollars and forty cents for taxes.

I will inform you in due time relative to the council's action about the taxes.

Judge Gunnison informed me to-day that he wrote you about the titles relative to your various properties here in Alaska on May the thirteenth. He read me a copy of his letter that he sent to you. So you are now in possession <sup>of the facts</sup> about the matters you were so desirous to hear about.

After you have had the enclosed Deed executed kindly rivet the sheets more securely. They are sent you loose for convenience.

I think of nothing more that needs to be said at this time.

I sincerely hope that I have made matters very clear to you.

Most sincerely yours,

L. L. Jones



HERBERT PARSONS  
HENRY B. CLOSSON  
TOMPKINS McILVAINE  
WILLIAM E. CARNOCHAN

*Parsons, Closson & McIlvaine,  
52 William Street,*

*New York,*

June 1st, 1911.

H. C. Olin, Esq.,  
Treasurer,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

I have your letter of to-day, enclosing two papers, one signed by Dr. Dodge, providing for the appointment of a resident agent in Alaska, and the other being an "Answer and Consent" in a proceeding to condemn property in Alaska for a post office and customs house.

In the instrument appointing a resident agent, the name of the appointee, I notice, is left blank. This, I suppose, you will fill in. The paper seems to be in proper form. The effect of executing such a paper is, of course, to subject your Board to the jurisdiction of local courts, but this, I have no doubt, is a matter which you have fully considered.

If the recitals contained in the answer and consent are correct, as I assume them to be, I see no objection to the execution by your Board of the answer and consent, assuming always that you have full confidence - as I assume you have - in the two agents named, Rev. L. F. Jones and Royal A. Gunnison. I notice that it is recited that You have waived the right to participate in the selection of a commission. If you have agreed upon the amount to be



received, such a waiver does not seem to be of importance.

I see no objection to the execution of the paper, but it is really a matter, however, in respect of which you will need to trust to your local representatives.

Yours very truly,

*William E. Lawrence*



June 2nd, 1911.

Judge Royal A. Gunnison,  
Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Judge Gunnison:-

Your letter of the 13th inst., in reply to ours of April 15th, with especial reference to the patents pending, covering the lands owned by this Board in Alaska, is duly at hand. We are gratified that the register of the land office has issued the certificates for Haines and Hoonah, but are very much at a loss to know why any complication should arise as to the Haines property. I trust you may be able to get at the root of this matter promptly, so that there may be no further delay with regard to it, and the other patents.

I may say with regard to the Haines property that during the administration of the then Secretary of War, W. Carey Sanger, you are probably aware that the government military reserve was located at Haines, and in locating that reserve, the government took by agreement, about one-half of our reservation. In the adjustment which was made when this property was relinquished to the government, it was agreed by the War Department, that they would protect us in the possession of the remainder of the lands, namely- the 266-54/100 acres in our present survey. This I had both in writing, and in a personal interview with Secretary Sanger, and the then Judge Advocate General of the Army.

The patents ought to have been granted, and in our hands long ago, and I trust that you will get at the bottom of this thing at once, and see that no further hold up is suffered.

Please keep me posted, as, if the matter cannot be pushed to a quick conclusion now at your end of the line, we must move ~~it~~ to Washington.

Yours very truly,

Treasurer.

O/H



ROYAL A. GUNNISON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 3rd, 1911.

Dr. H. C. Olin,  
Presbyterian Board of Home Missions,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York, N. Y.

IN RE  
HAINES MISSION.

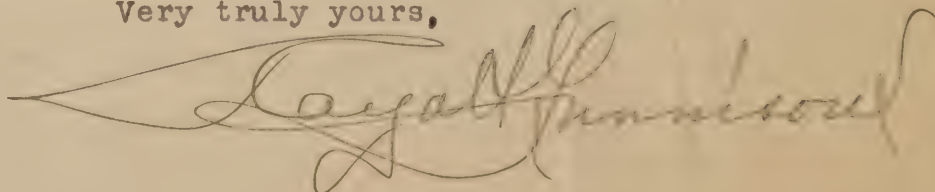
My dear Sir:

Supplementary to my letter of May 13th with reference to the Haines site, I beg to say that I am advised by the officials of the local land office, that the case of the application for a patent for mission property, at Haines, has been suspended in the General Land Office, at Washington, pending the report from the Field Office, as to the good faith of the entry, and pending also, a report as to whether the land contains deposite coal or petroleum. I understand that the examination will be made during the present summer.

I expect that the investigation as to the bona fides of this entry has been roused by the statements of the promoters of the railroads, projected from Haines to the Interior, about the purchase of the mission property, at Haines, as a site for railroads, yards and depots. These statements, of which I have heard, at Haines, have doubtless reached the ears of the General Land Office in some way, thus hindering the action of that office.

Very truly yours,

RAG/FBO.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Royal A. Gunnison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with long, sweeping strokes.

subsequent events, it was fortunate that neither of them appeared. At this meeting, the Council refused to remit the taxes. Mr. Jones came to me as soon as he received notification of the action of the Council. I conferred with the Mayor and one or two members of the Council with reference to the matter, and told them that the Board had no desire to hold up the transfer of the property to the government, but that it believed that it should not be taxed, and asked that we might be given an opportunity to be heard in the matter. The Council said that there would be a meeting on the 2nd of June, which was yesterday, and the matter would be reopened, if we desired to have it. Mr. Jones and I discussed the matter at some length, and the conclusion at which we arrived, was that to expedite the transfer of the property and the construction of the federal building, which had been so long held up, as a result of differences over the question of price, it would be advisable to pay the taxes, under protest, and then go before the Council and ask it to remit to them. Mr. Jones thereupon paid the taxes, took his tax receipts, and the District Attorney sent on the certificate of the Treasurer as to the property being clear. I suppose that you will receive notice from the Attorney General with reference to the matter long before you receive this letter. That having been done, I prepared a petition which was signed by Mr. Jones, as the representative of the Board, and last night, filed it with the Common Council. The Petition asked that the action of the Council at its last special meeting, with reference to the taxes, be reconsidered; that the representatives of the Board be given a hearing, and that the taxes be remitted. Mr. Jones and I appeared before the Council and stated the case of the Board. After considerable discussion between the Council and ourselves, the Council voted 5 to 1, not to remit the taxes. During all the debate, there was an expression of very good feeling toward the Board and Mr. Jones, on the part of the Councilmen, and this was substantially evidenced by the



To, Dr.H.C.Olin.

6/3/11

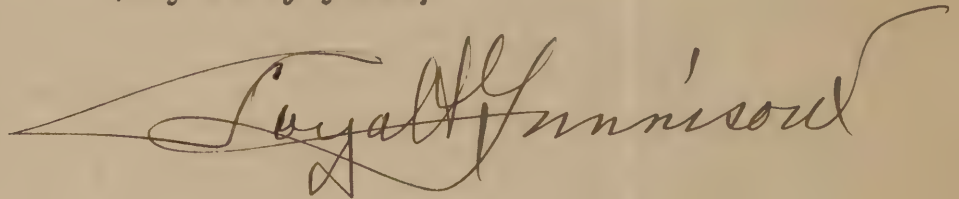
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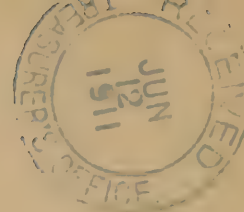
action of the Councilmen in passing a resolution to the effect that, in the event that the Government should require the Board to remove the buildings from the grounds, the Council would remove the buildings at the expense of the city, and save the Board from any expense in the matter. All things considered, this is a better proposition for the Board, than it would have been to have the taxes remitted, for I believe that it will cost in the neighborhood of \$500.00 to tear down the buildings, and clear the grounds of the debris.

I trust that the result of our efforts meet with your appro-  
bation.

Very truly yours,

RA/FBO.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fayal Hinnissoul". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "RA/FBO.". It features a large, sweeping initial 'F' and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.



June 3, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,

New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

The Juneau city council held its regular session last evening. Judge Gunnison and I appeared before that august body to argue our case in order to have them to remit the taxes on the mission property, that is lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, in block 19.

Judge Gunnison had all of the facts about the property in hand and presented them very clearly. After the arguments, and the matter of remitting was put to a vote five out of the six councilmen voted, nay. So the taxes stand ~~against~~ it. But in <sup>order</sup> to offset this, one of the councilmen moved that if the Board is required to move the old buildings and debris on the premises then the city will assume that expense, or in other words remove the buildings with <sup>out</sup> cost to the Board. It is very likely that since the Government is now acquiring title through purchase rather than through condemnation proceedings that all of the property holders in the block will be required to dispose of their buildings. If so this would cost the Board more than what the taxes amount to. So the Board is likely to gain on this transaction in the end. At any rate the Board does not need to lose this amount paid for taxes, as it can do what I suggested in my last letter to you—take it out of the Johnson option money. This would be equitable, as the sole argument of the council for taxing the property was this, that as soon as Johnson took his option then the property became liable to taxation.

Kindly bear in mind that a check is due ~~to~~ me for \$246.40.



#2. Mr. Olin.

The note which I gave in favor of the taxes was made payable on demand. As I know not how soon that payment may be demanded you will see that an early remittance will be appreciated.

I send herewith the tax receipts. I shall keep you informed of the progress of the whole matter of our property affairs.

Very cordially yours,

*L. F. Jones*

ROYAL A. GUNNISON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
JUNEAU, ALASKA

June 3rd, 1911



Dr. H. C. Olin,

Presbyterian Board of Home Missions,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York, N. Y.

IN RE  
MUNICIPAL TAXES ON MISSION  
PROPERTY IN TOWN OF JUNEAU.

My dear Sir:

Last week, the Reverend Mr. L. F. Jones, in charge of your property here, came to see me with reference to the taxes assessed and levied by the City of Juneau, upon Lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 in Block 18, which property is the old mission property on the south side of 5th St. It seems that immediately after the Board gave Captain John Johnston, an option on the property, the city commenced to assess taxes against that property. The notices were all sent to Captain Johnston, and Mr. Jones knew nothing about it, until last year, when he heard through some third person, that this property had been assessed and taxes had been levied against it since 1906. At that time I had a talk with Mr. Jones about the matter, and gave it as my opinion, that under the peculiar circumstances in the case, even though an option had been given for the sale of the property, it still came within the provisions of the Alaska Statute, and was not taxable. The matter was not taken up with the Council at that time however. Last week, the District Attorney, in making preparations to close the transfer to the government for a site of a federal building, discovered that the mission property was assessed, and that taxes aggregating \$246.00 stood against it. At that time the District Attorney talked with the Mayor about the matter, and the Mayor called a Special Meeting of the Council, to consider remission of the taxes. It was the idea of Mr. Jones and the District Attorney, as well, that the taxes would be remitted, and therefore neither of them appeared at the Special Meeting. In the light of



June 15th, 1911.

United States District Attorney,

Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:-

By direction of the Assistant District Attorney at Juneau, Alaska, transmitted to us through our agent in Alaska, the Rev. L. F. Jones, I am handing you herewith a warranty deed to Lots 6, 7, 8 & 9 in Block 19, City of Juneau, Alaska, which, by arrangement between your representative and our agent, has been sold to the United States Government for \$8,500., it being understood, however, that through a citizens' subscription, this Board refunds \$250. of this purchase price.

You will note that the deed has been signed by the President and Secretary of this Board and acknowledged in the presence of a Notary. We trust you may find the same in order, and shall be glad of a check to cover at your early convenience.

Very truly yours,

Treasurer.

(Enclosure)

O/S

June 15th, 1911.

Rev. L. F. Jones,

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

The Board, at it's meeting today, empowered the President and Secretary of the Board to sign the warranty deed to the Government covering the transfer of Lots 6, 7, 8 & 9 in Block 19 to the Government of the United States, and the same has been duly signed and forwarded to the District Attorney, as directed, with the request that a check for \$8,500. shall be forwarded here.

In order that you may be relieved of embarrassment in the matter of the taxes, I am handing you herewith a check for \$246.40 on this account, for which we already hold the tax receipts.

We do not understand that you require the forwarding of \$250. covering your subscription on this account until we have received the funds from the Government.

In this connection let me ask that you will return here, unless the Government desires to hold it, the "Answer and Consent" signed by the officers of the Board in the original condemnation proceedings. We should also have returned to us any papers that may be in your hands covering options to Capt. Johnston or Mr. Bengé, and the deed signed in the summer of last year for the transfer of the property to Bengé. It would not be well to have these afloat or on file anywhere else than in this office.

Our Committee, in consideration of this matter, took very careful notice of the amounts which Capt. Johnston has thus far paid in, and should he make any claim on this account, we shall be glad to have you forward it here to the office. Let me say that the Committee, and the Board, do not feel that he has any legal claim whatever upon us under these options, but of course the Board desires to do the right thing. I think it would be well not to say anything of this to Capt. Johnston, but should he put in a claim or speak to you about it, simply ask him to put it in writing and forward it here with such recommendations as you may have to make.

The matter of \$225. for painting the Church and the Manse I think will have to lie over for consideration in the near future. As you of course know, this property is the



Rev. L. F. Jones, 2.

property of our Woman's Board. They had your request under consideration at a recent meeting, and decided that it could not be granted, at the same time suggesting that ~~you~~ the people of your church and community might take up the matter of painting these buildings. Of course we shall be glad to hear from you as to this also.

In closing let me thank you, on behalf of the Board, for your endeavors in this whole direction, covering so many years. If the sale goes through and the Government promptly settles, we shall have you to thank for carrying the matter along.

Very cordially yours,

Treasurer.

o/s

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER.

R.T.S.  
156654-6

R.T.S./CEM.

Department of Justice,  
Washington.



June 20, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
Board of Home Missions,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Sir:

This is to advise you that the deed from Thomas R. Lyons, Trustee for the Townsite of Juneau, Alaska, to The Board of Home Missions, etc., dated March 21, 1898, and the deed of said board to the United States of America, without date, but acknowledged June 15, 1910, covering lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 in block 19, have been received in this Department, from the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, to whom you sent the same. Correspondence on this matter should be directed to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C.

+ This Department has had some correspondence with John Rustgard, Esq., United States Attorney at Juneau, Alaska, respecting the taking of title to said lots by purchase. In purchasing property the United States requires abstracts of title and other evidences thereto, the regulations of which you will find set out in



Mr. H. C. Olin-2-

Department Circular of September 1, 1910, a copy of which I inclose.

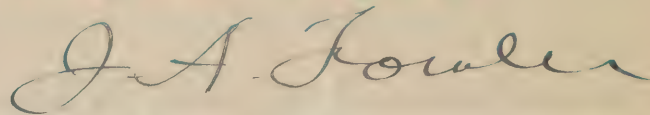
Attention is directed to the act of March 2, 1889, 25 Stat. at Large, 941, requiring the owners of the property to furnish free of expense to the Government such muniments of title as the Attorney General may require, to enable him to give the information which is required under Section 355 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

On June 9th, this Department wrote to Mr. Rustgard, advising him as above. It is suggested that you communicate with Mr. Rustgard respecting this case.

The deeds mentioned above are held in this Department at your disposal or upon the arrival of sufficient evidence of title to the property in question.

X  
Very respectfully,

For the Attorney General,



Assistant to the Attorney General.

Inc. 41245.

June 26, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

Your favor of June 15<sup>th</sup>, containing the check to meet taxes, was received day before yesterday. Many thanks to the Board for its promptness in meeting this demand. My note has now been taken up, and that matter is now O.K.

I called at the District Attorney's office this morning and informed that office that you had already sent the deed properly executed to the Attorney General at Washington. The official here in charge was glad to hear that the Board acted so promptly in executing the deed and sending it on.

I told this same official that you desired that I should return to you the "Answer and Consent" signed by the officers of the Board in the original condemnation proceedings. He said ~~of the original~~ that he wished to retain this until he had definite word from the government that it would acquire the property by purchase rather than by condemnation proceedings. This will be determined as soon as the Government can satisfy itself that titles to all the properties involved are clear and sound. There is only one property that there can be any question as to title. This is one Lot which is in an estate. But it can be shown that the only possible heir is the one now in possession and who is ready to make the transfer to the Government. The District Attorney tells me that he has made it clear to the Government that there can be no other heir to this lot in question, and that the Government will rest satisfied with his recommendation to proceed in the matter of closing up the negotiations at the earliest possible moment with the property holders.

~~next to hold~~

I shall return to you the "Answer and Consent" as soon as this office is through with it.

You judged rightly about the \$250. covering our subscription to the citizens' contribution toward the purchase of the property for the Government. No, you are not to send the money until the Government pays you. If the Government should fail to take the property, the Board is not to pay it at all.

I enclose, as you request, the deed which was executed by the Board in favor of Mr. Bunge. The two first options of Capt. Johnston were verbal and no papers passed between us whatever. Both times he paid for these options, he was going away and said he had no time to bother with papers, and that he could trust me implicitly to take care of his interests as well as that of the Board's. The third time he took his option, the Board, as you know, executed an Agreement with the Captain. The Board kept the

original and gave him a copy. I received no copy of that Agreement. Consequently the only papers that passed between Capt. Johnston and the Board you and he have. As you say, so I think,



that all deeds or other papers pertaining to the sale of this property executed in the past should be sent into your office and kept on file there, if kept at all.

I am reasonably sure that Capt. Johnston never filed the Agreement he received from the Board in the Court here or anywhere else.

I am, therefore, safe in saying that nothing is on file about the property in any court.

Now as to Johnston's equity, that is conceding he has any, which as a matter of law he has not. This he knows, as he knows he failed to fulfil his agreement, and the terms were that he was to forfeit all moneys paid in if he failed in the agreement. He realizes this. But through no fault of his own, he fell down on this proposition. He struggled hard enough, but adversity met him on every hand, and because of this he failed to make good his part of the contract. Now I'm sure the Board does not want to take an advantage over a man who has had a hard run like this, a man who was certainly honorable in his dealings and did his best to come through. Johnston came to the city a few days ago and he came straight to me after landing in town to find out the status of things. I told him what the Government was doing and that doubtless it would soon be in possession of the property. He wanted to know if the Board was going to throw him down all together. On the strength of your former letters in which you spoke about making some equitable settlement with him in case the government acquired the property, I told him that I thought not, but that the Board would give him some kind of an equity. As he is in straightened circumstances, I think he is depending to some extent on this. ~~He is an old man.~~ He is an old man, and if he loses this with all of his other loses, it will doubtless embarrass him exceedingly.

When the time comes, and that should be not until the Government is in possession of the property, I think that the Board should make what settlement it feels justified in making with Capt. Johnston.

I feel, however, that no steps should be taken ~~xxxx~~ toward any such settlement, or any thing said about it, so far as it can be avoided, until after the Board has made its transfer to the Government.

Now as to the painting of the manse and the church. I regret to say that it is out of the question for us to expect the natives to meet this expense. This one organization is running two churches and paying all running expenses, besides contributing annually to the Boards. With their limited means they feel that they cannot do any more. The natives about Juneau and Douglas do not make the money that natives do in some other communities. They have no fishing nor hunting grounds such as other natives have, but depend entirely on ~~th~~ their short season of work in the summer in the mines for their subsistence. They commence work in June and quit about the middle, averaging not five months in the year. While working they have to live and maintain their families. The little surplus that is left them in the fall has to see them through the long long winter, as they are idle (enforced) that long period. So they have not the means to meet such heavy demands as painting these buildings. Now, Mr. Olin, it is to the Board's best interests to keep these buildings which I am occupying in the best of repairs as they are increasing (that is the ground which they occupy) in value every day. The time is not far distant when this corner will command \$3,000., and more than one will be glad to get it for that. But if the Board lets the buildings go to rack and ruin for want of paint it will not command any such price.

When Mr. McAfee was here, I proposed that when this property can be sold for \$3,000., we ought to let it go, put \$5,000., into the

October



Mr. Olin #3.

treasury of the Board and take the balance and build out nearer to the native village a more modest plant. By keeping this corner in good shape we will stand, in the near future, of getting \$8,000., for it. To neglect it is to pursue the penny wise and pound foolish plan.

I am not proposing that the Board should spend a couple of hundred dollars of the ~~Board's~~ money simply because it has the prospect of getting \$8,000., or so, from the sale of the mission property. I recommend it because the property needs it. This is a hard climate on paint. And unless you keep your buildings well painted they will rot down in no time. Now it is the Board's property. It is up to it to take care of it. I have lived here over seventeen years, and I think you will have to admit that it has cost the Board comparatively little to keep it up. The inside I have taken care of myself at my own expense. During this time the valuation of the property has more than doubled. I think you will agree with me that it pays to take care of a property the valuation of which increases right along. When the Government gets the block just across the road and improves that whole block, you can readily see how it will enhance the value of this fine corner. For the sake of your property here I hope that the Board will make this <sup>year</sup> appropriation as soon as the sale of the other property is assured. Believe me, I do not wish to incur one dollar more of expense to the Board to keep up their property here than is necessary. I am the Board's servant, and I try ~~to~~ conscientiously <sup>to</sup> work for its best interests.

With best wishes to yourself personally, I am,  
Very sincerely yours,

L. F. Jones



July 12, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,

New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

Your letter bearing date of June 30th, relative to abstracts required by the Government has just been received. I hasten to tell you that the abstracts were sent from the District Attorney's office here about the same time that I advised you to execute and send deed to the Government, and should have arrived at Washington about the same time, or a little before, the deed you sent in from your office was received there. This office here has been—rather was—advised about ten days ago from Washington that the deeds and abstracts sent from this end, for some unaccountable reason, did not reach the office of the Attorney General at Washington. That is they had not done so when they wrote from that office about ten days or more ago. They may have those deeds and abstracts by this time. Duplicates have been sent in from this end.

I am advised by the District Attorney here that if you recalled your papers from Washington, to request you to return them to Washington at once upon receipt of this letter. He wishes that you would kindly do so ~~so~~ that the matter will not be delayed longer than necessary. He also wishes me to call your attention to the fact that two deeds were issued to the Board for their property here. For a while a fraction of Lot 8 was in controversy. When this was cleared the office here issued the Board a deed for this fraction. If you failed to send this deed in when you sent the others to Washington, kindly see to it that it goes in. You will have no difficulty in remembering about this fractional part of Lot 8 .

Your property here is absolutely free from all encumbrances.



Mr. Olin #2.

The District Attorney's office here has gone into the question of title ~~thoroughly~~ thoroughly, and has satisfied itself that the property is free from all encumbrances and that you can give a full and valid deed. This office directs me to advise you to this effect. And furthermore to advise you that it has written the Government that it has searched the title and found it perfectly clear. This together with the deeds you have sent on should be altogether satisfactory to the powers that be at Washington.

Let us hope that this matter may not be held up much longer. Patience should be longer-suffering, but not everlastingly suffering. Less statutes and quicker pay would be less trying to our nervous system, as you no doubt will agree.

Very sincerely yours,

L. F. Jones

P.S. The Commissioner's office has presented the enclosed bill for furnishing a Cert. copy of Special Patent and same of Gen. Patent to the Government. He just passed this over to me though the bill is dated May 25<sup>th</sup> 1911. You will kindly take this up in due time.

L. F. J.



ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER.

R.T.A.

156654-12

R.T.S./CBM.

Department of Justice,  
Washington.

July 25, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,

The Board of Home Missions, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.,  
156 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Sir:

Referring to Department letter of July 6, 1911, returning to you two deeds relating to lots 5, 6, 7, and 8 in block 19, in the city of Juneau, Alaska, which are to be acquired by purchase by the Government for use as a site for a Federal building, you are advised that I am in receipt of a letter from the United States Attorney for the First Division, district of Alaska, dated July 12, 1911, accompanying which are duplicate deeds and abstracts of title covering said lots.

I suggest that you return the deed of Thomas R. Lyons, dated March 21, 1898, and the deed of the Board of Home Missions, etc. to the United States, acknowledged June 15, 1911, in order that I may have the same when the title papers referred to are examined.

Very respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

*Ernest Knaebel*  
Assistant Attorney General.



Juneau, Alaska, Aug. 29, 1911.

Mr. Harvey C. Olin, Treasurer,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Olin:-

*We are carrying 2000.00 on  
this ch. on a 2000.00 valuation.  
Why more ins?*

I enclose a document from the Board of Church Election which explains itself. I am under the impression that you took this matter of insurance up with the Board of C.E., only a short time ago. If I am mistaken then will you kindly look after the matter. We cannot raise that insurance here, I am sorry to say. So we look to you to take care of it.

And now another matter. The check for \$8,500. from the Government for our mission property is now here in the hands of the Assistant District Attorney. As soon as it is paid over to me, I will receipt for its receipt and then forward the check immediately to you. I expect to have it paid over to-morrow. If not then very soon.

Still another matter. A week ago I received the check from your office to cover the salary of the interpreter for the month of August but up to date no salary for August for myself has been received. Brother Stevens received his check from your office about a week ago for his August salary. Now if you would enclose my check and the interpreter's in the same envelope it would be far more satisfactory to me. As it is my check comes dragging along some time after the first of the month. On account of this I have stand off my creditors who come collecting the first of every month for light, water, coal, laundry, groceries, ect. Either that or I have to run to the bank and borrow at a rate of 12 per cent. I have observed that when you send the two checks in the one envelope that I get mine more regularly. but when you separate them then for some reason one or the other of the checks is mostly behind. If your system is such that you can enclose the two in the one envelope I will esteem it a favor. # Very sincerely yours,

L. F. Jones

*Don't's Aug salary ch was overlooked  
when the other Alaska money was paid - ch finally sent 8.34/11*



